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HISTORICAL NOTES ON LAWRENCE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

BY MARY TRACY WHITE.

We are all familiar with the fact that Lawrence County was one of the counties carved out of Edwards. And my paper is confined to that *part* of Edwards which is now Lawrence County and which has a history and will have a future one.

There were three prominent trails or Indian roads that ran through Lawrence County previous to the advent of the white men, these pathways having been worked out by buffalo, deer and Indians, long before the white man's appearance on the scene to build his home and introduce civilization. One of these trails was substantially the site of the old State Road now running east and west through the county, starting at Louisville, Ky., or, as the Indians termed it, "Bear Grass," and running to Cahokia, opposite the site of the present city of St. Louis, or just below it, on the eastern bank of the Mississippi River.

The middle trail was only two or three miles south of the one just mentioned and its route traced from Kaskaskia—first capital of Illinois—to Post St. Vincent (now Vincennes).

The third and shorter one started at Shawneetown, on the Ohio River, and ranged northeast in general conformity to the trend of the rivers, and westward to Mussel Shoals, a point one mile or so below the mouth of Indian Creek, which empties into the Embarras River a few miles south of Lawrenceville. There two of the trails blended into one pathway to the old Post (Vincennes), where all three trails united in a common course to Louisville—or the site of the present city.

Lawrence County formed a part of Edwards County, which was organized by territorial law December, 1814, and extended

from the present north line of White County to Lake Michigan, taking in Fort Dearborn, the site of Chicago. The Wabash River was its boundary on the east, the west the Third Principal Meridian. Old Palmyra, a town some three miles above Mt. Carmel on the Wabash River, was the county seat of Edwards County. Palmyria is now deserted and forsaken, a growth of timber has taken the places of the dwellings of the inhabitants. An act for the formation of a new county 'out of the counties of Edwards and Crawford was approved Jan. 16, 1821, and named Lawrence County.

The earliest settlements of the county were made along the old Cahokia trace, which followed the State Road, and on the Wabash and Embarras Rivers, hence St. Francisville was settled along the Wabash before 1803, perhaps at the beginning of the last century by the French. Joseph Tongas (Tongaw) was one of the first settlers in 1803—the village was laid out in 1835 by the widow of Joseph Tongas.

Charlottesville and Russellville were settled along the Wabash and Embarras Rivers, and the first wagon road laid out in the northern part of the county was between the two places, it was surveyed sometime in the twenties and is perhaps the oldest except the Shelbyville and the Lancaster; it is obliterated now by changes along lines, like many other primitive routes of travel. Along this road was the home of John Allison, who was undoubtedly the greatest deer hunter that ever lived in our county, being credited with as high as 14 to 20 killed in a day. The Allison's were among the first settlers of Allison Prairie, coming before 1812.

The first settlement in *Russell Township* was made at Russellville, the site of an Indian village, the town was called "Little Village." The grave of Little Turtle is still pointed out. The first settlers were Samuel and Jonathan Allison, whose name is borne by the Prairie. There was a fort built at Russellville for protection against the Indians. James and Thomas Fyffe (brothers) came to Lawrence County from Kentucky in 1814, and upon their arrival in the territory, they were obliged to take refuge in Fort Allison. After peace was declared they

left the fort and later entered land. The Fyffe brother's were Freeholders. (Edward P. Fyffe was the first child born of American or (English) parents in Lawrence County.) Jesse K. Du-bois born in what is Lawrence County, 1811. (There is some controversy about the above.) This fort was the earliest place occupied by white men, except St. Francisville. It is said that traces of the old fort are yet to be seen. There are a number of Indian graves of the mound order in that part of the county, with Indian utensils, charms, etc.; some of these are made of brass, while the hatchets are usually of stone. Flint arrow and spear heads are also found near the mounds in great abundance. Russell Township is an interesting locality, full of many curious facts and things of by-gone days, understood fully only by the vanished red man.

The old Shaker Mill at Charlottesville, *Petty* Township, was where most of the milling was done. There were a number of houses in the town and the stores did quite a thriving business, selling goods in the surrounding country to the settlers, but the building of the iron bridge at what is now the village of West Port was its undoing. The town of Port Jackson, higher up the river, was another sample of the strange changes in the mind of man. At one time it was quite a flourishing locality, having two stores and a cabinet shop. It is now a ford crossing of the Embarras River and with a farm house to mark the spot where it was. In 1818 there was but one cabin north of the State Road and west of the Ambraw River. This was the cabin of Peter Paragin; he was a great hunter. Aaron Vanatta came in 1820 and Thomas Bowen in 1822, and the Lewis's in 1824.

There was during the days of the early settling of the northern portion of Lawrence County and southwestern portion of Crawford County, an organized band of marauders, horse thieves, operating in every locality where they could secure booty, but whose headquarters seemed to be located in what was termed the "Dark Bend" in Crawford, many of these parties were still in and about the town of Chauncey in the year 1856, but so well organized were they that it was

impossible to convict them, and the individual who was so unfortunate as to have a horse taken and run into the "Bend" as it was called, might as well give up hope of recovery. Furnaces were found along the river where they were supposed to have made and coined counterfeit money. When the church building in *Petty* was being erected, among other things a history of this band was placed in one of the posts of the pulpit. This was believed to be a part of the celebrated league of the Miami, which was exploited in Emerson Bennett's novel, "The League of the Miami." Efforts to find lead along the Embarrass River below Hardinsville is how the furnaces were discovered.

The most conspicuous early settlement in *Allison Township* was that of the Dubois family, (Records of land offices show them on Dubois Hills 1784-90—there in 1744—Store in year 1744. records) about a mile north of the present railroad bridge, on the bluff known as "Dubois Hills." The ground ran back to the Commons, a great glebe of 1,020 acres in this tract, (they had *many* other tracts). The Commons were enclosed with palings of split saplings to the height of ten feet, over which neither beast or savage might easily climb. It was the common pasture grounds for the entire populace in dangerous times, where they shut up their cattle, leaving their fields open. During the War of 1812 cannons were placed on the hills. The house itself, the most pretentious in two villages, in 1778, was full two stories in height, built of the native rough stone with a clapboard roof, and dormer windows. The house had been completed about five years, and it had taken as many to get together the building materials, brought as they were, by batteau, a light boat from New Orleans. A little portico shaded the front door, a large hall with a door at either end ran through the center of the edifice, a huge fireplace on one side and a stairway on the other; at either hand were two large apartments, the grand chamber or parlor with a cabinet, or guest chamber, behind it; opposite these the sitting and dining room. The upper floor was similarly divided. The house was finished with many articles of household

furnishings conveyed from France, so that the interior was elegant to behold. It is not often that one can trace the age and record of old furniture back to over a century and a half ago, but some of the furniture and the old yellow documents, portraits, silver, china and so forth are in possession of the Dubois family today. On this tract was planted the first orchard ever planted in the State before the War of 1812. Five or six years ago the writer visited this place and a part of one of the old pear trees was still alive and may be today.

About 1819 Toussaint, Jr. and Loire (or Larry) Dubois located on the claim made by their father, Toussaint Dubois, Sr. They were very active in building up the town of Lawrenceville. At the special May meeting of the County Commissioners Court, after the county was organized in 1821, a committee of two was appointed to select a site for a county seat, the following is their report, made the 16th day of May, 1821: The location is selected on the twenty acres on the west side of the Embarras River, 300 yards south of the Dubois Mills, on a ridge to the left of the St. Louis Trail, laid off in a square and designated as the center of said tract by a white oak stump with a peeled stake sticking by its side, as the "seat of Justice." This ground is situated on the old French claim of Toussaint Dubois, Sr. This tract contained many hundred acres. The site for the capital of the county was selected nearly central within the claim. It was surveyed and platted by John Dunlap, the 27th and 28th days of June, 1821, and placed on record Apr. 24, 1823. The deed for the twenty acres, which was *donated* by the Dubois's, was executed Sept. 15, 1821, by Jane Dubois, executrix, widow of Toussaint Dubois, Sr. and Toussaint, Jr. and H. Dubois, executors. The town was laid off three blocks square, with the block for the county buildings arranged in the center. The streets were 82 feet wide, and named as follows: those extending north and south were called Main and Market; those east and west Jones and Sugar streets. It is the oldest town in the county. Large maple trees then covered the present site of the town; in short, it was but a little hamlet within a sugar camp. As early as 1816 Cornelius

Taylor kept a ferry across the Embarras just above the bridge at Lawrenceville. The first house built within the limits of Lawrenceville was the hut of John Brigham, about 1816. The Post Office was established about 1821 or 22. At this time it required 25 cents to get a letter from distant friends. Valentine Bradley was one of the first postmasters. About 1827 the Dubois brothers erected quite an extensive distillery. For a time this industry furnished a market for all the corn for many miles around. The product was shipped to New Orleans in flatboats via the Embarras, Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. This establishment was in running order until about 1843, when it was abandoned. A carding and fulling mill were also a part of the business of the town at that time; quite an extensive slaughtering and packing house furnished a good market for the pork raised in this region of the State. The first merchandise was sold by the Dubois brothers in 1821. The early milling was had at Vincennes, two attempts to construct a water mill had failed, then in 1820, Toussaint Dubois, Jr., and Henri, with the aid of the settlers, succeeded in constructing a dam, and a mill was soon erected. It was called a "corn-cracker."

Mr. Galbreth was the first "smith" to shoe the horses and mend the linch pins of the early settlers. His shop was situated a little south of where the court house now stands. This ground was then a wilderness of sugar maple, extending from his shop north to the river.

The first resident physicians were Gabriel Cochran, Dr. Barton and Wm. Anderson. For the first medical attendance the pioneers were obliged to send over to Vincennes.

The people of Lawrenceville had the distinction of listening to the preaching of the widely known and celebrated Lorenzo Dow in the year 1830. The same year was also the year of the "Dow Storm," so called by the pioneers. In his discourse at Lawrenceville he is said to have foretold the storm, which was so severe that it blew French carts across the river at Vincennes.

The deep snow occurred in the winter of 1830-31; this is one of the landmarks of the early settlers; it is the milestone, so to speak, from which he counts in dating events; nothing has equaled it for the last century. If the Indian traditions are correct as to what occurred before the advent of the white man, they had a tradition that about seventy-five years before, a snow fell which swept away the immense herds of buffalo and elk that then roamed over these prairies. This tradition was verified by the vast quantity of buffalo and elk bones found on the prairies when first visited by the white men. The snow began falling early in autumn, and continued at intervals, throughout the entire winter. The snowfall would be succeeded by heavy sleet, forming crusts of ice between the layers of snow, strong enough in many places to bear up the deer and hunter. Frequently for weeks the sun was not visible, and the cold was so intense that not a particle of snow would melt on the sides of the cabins facing the south. For weeks people were blockaded or housed up, and remained so until starvation compelled them to go forth in search of food. Great suffering, hunger and untold hardships were endured by the people. Game, such as deer, prairie chickens, quails, rabbits, etc., before that time had been abundant, but for years afterwards was very scarce, having perished in the snow. As the snow would thaw, deer were often caught and killed without the aid of firearms, being unable to get through the snow or walk on top. Later in winter, when the mass of snow or ice had become compact, fences that were staked and ridged were driven over with heavily loaded vehicles, and, in fact, the old settlers say in places it could not be seen. The snow in many places, was from 3 to 5 feet on the level. In the spring when this immense amount of snow melted, the river, streams and marshes became flooded. The sudden freeze in January, 1836, was another milestone from which the pioneer dated events.

Lawrence Township deserves favorable mention from the fact that it contains the capital of the county, and is among the first settled precincts of Lawrence County and bears the same name. One of the first to brave the wilds of the western

frontier was John McCleave, a native of Maryland, born in 1778. When a mere boy his parents moved to the state of Ohio, where he grew to manhood. In 1801, he married Mary Benefiel, and remained in Ohio until 1814, when he moved to Illinois (then territory), and first stopped in the north part of Allison's Prairie, not far from the present site of Centerville. The Indians then being on the warpath, he was obliged to move his family into the "fort" (Fort Allison) for protection, where they remained until the spring of 1814. After the conclusion of the treaty with England relating to the War of 1812, the Indians became peaceable, and the people left the fort. Mr. McCleave located across the river from Vincennes, where he remained until the following spring, when he moved over the river and stayed one year. In the spring of 1817, he again came to the Illinois side and permanently located. He built a small camp, made of puncheons, and commenced the life of a pioneer. He entered quite a tract of land, which he subsequently improved. He was a good citizen and kind neighbor.

A prominent pioneer was Colonel Spencer, who permanently located in Section 2, Township 3, Range 12. He had been here several years prior to this settlement; he improved a good farm, and was very popular with his neighbors. In early times all male citizens of certain ages, were required to muster, and devote a portion of time each year to train as militiamen. Mr. Spencer was elected a colonel of a regiment, hence his title, and he was ever afterward known, by his acquaintances, as Col. Wm. Spencer. He was also elected County Commissioner for some years. At his coming, there were three pioneer children—Jane, Fannie and William; one son, George, who was born in the precinct. From best authority, Col. William Spencer was among the first white men to locate in this precinct. He had built a double log cabin on the Embarras River, at a point where the "old trace" crossed. This was about 1806. With the exception of one or two cabins further west, there was no other habitation between Vincennes and the old French town of Cahokia. In 1816, we find Mr. Spencer

located in Section 2, Township 3, Range 12. David Grove came from Pennsylvania in 1816. Another pioneer of 1816 was Isaiah Lewis, who migrated from Kentucky with a large family. John Buchanan also came from the South as early as 1816. The Rawlings family were from Kentucky, and located here in 1816. The old gentleman was very aged when he made his advent here, and lived but a few years. Robert Benefiel came from Ohio in 1818. James and John McLean came from Kentucky in 1817.

Lukin Township began to receive settlements about 1816. The Ruark family were the first settlers. William Kinkade was a pioneer author, preacher and legislator from Lukin. In the year 1823-24 William Kinkade represented the counties of Wayne and Lawrence as senator in the State Legislature. The fight for the convention to establish slavery with the people of the State was on. He was one of the few lucky men who succeeded in getting a hearing, and made a strong speech against it. As a *minister* of the gospel, he established one of the first church organizations in the county. This is what is known as "Old Spring Hill," two and one-half miles southwest of Bridgeport. Spring Hill was quite a large and influential congregation; it is now forsaken. This congregation had the distinction of listening to the preaching of the widely known and celebrated Lorenzo Dow in the year 1830. The first Methodist church erected in Lawrence County was in Lukin Township in the year 1831—however the *class* was organized in 1819. One was also built on Allison Prairie, near Centerville about the same time. The first regular school taught in the county was in 1817 by George Godfrey. The school was conducted within a fort that had been erected in Dennison Township.

Tanyards were an institution of pioneer times, and but two of these are known, Baldwinsburg and Hoops. The Hoops was located in Lukin Township and Baldwins in Dennison Township. An oil mill for the manufacture of linseed oil, at least two carding mills for wool, there were "old mills" at Charlottesville, Vanleets or Osborns on Indian Creek south of Crossroads school house, Arpaugh's east of Bunker Hill school

house, Sumner's on the Samuel Sumner farm and one on the old State Road west of Thackera's school house, also a store here, and the mill at Smallburg. A description and picture of the old Sage mill at Lawrenceville was recently in the Lawrenceville papers.

Bridgeport Township was settled by Samuel and Rezin Clubb in 1817, followed by James Lanterman, who came to this county driving an old Virginia wagon drawn by six horses; he bought his section from an old Indian and squaw for a quart of whiskey and a half side of bacon. Robert Drennan, Richard McCann and another young man came with him. Nathan Rawlings settled on Section 8 in 1817, and Henry Bennett on Section 17 and William Martin on Section 18—as well as Thomas Fish. Samuel Newell came in 1816 and Samuel Stewart in 1817.

Bond Township was settled as early as 1813 by the Lackey's and McCord's. In 1815 Leonard and John Morris (negroes) came into the fort at Russellville and afterwards formed the first negro settlement. The mother of "the Morris's," whose husband was killed by the Indians expressed the revengeful desire, that a cannon be placed on Dubois hills to exterminate the Indian race. In eighteen hundred and nineteen the Shakers formed a community near Charlottesville, about 40 of them; they held their property in common, and all business was transacted through a board of trustees, Daniel Rankin and David Gallaher, were members of the first board in 1819. They built two houses, the men living in one and the women in the other; the Shaker mill soon followed. In 1818 William Childress came from Tennessee and Edward Mills and John Dollahan, a Methodist preacher, who planted the first orchard and laid out the first cemetery in the township; James Bryant came in 1819.

The first settler of *Christy* Township was Benjamin Sumner in 1817, and Summer was platted in 1854. Dick King was the first inhabitant of the new town. Other portions began to settle, towns were laid out, some of which remain and some are gone to wreck. There have been at least five attempts to

build towns in the county, not counting Old Palmyra, which properly belongs to Wabash County. These were old Charlottesville, Hadley, Baldwinsburg, Olean and Smallsburg. This last was close to the trace crossing at Mussel Shoals and was really where "Small's Mill" was located, known of late as Brown's Mill" (the old stone wheel is yet on the bank).

According to a book entitled "Illinois in 1837," published in Philadelphia by the census of 1830 the population of Lawrence County was 3,668. Also that the other towns in the county are Stringtown, on the Embarras River above Lawrenceville; Russellville, on the Wabash and Smallsburg a few miles below Lawrenceville on the Embarras, but on the map Lawrenceville and Smallsburg are the only towns indicated.

In the Circuit Clerk's office in the Lawrence County Court House is found "A bill for a sale of lots;" it reads like this:

TOWN OF SMALLSBURG.

"Town of Smallsburg is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river L'Embarras, about one and a half miles from its confluence with the Wabash, and about six miles west of Vincennes, on the Great Road leading to St. Louis and Kaskaskia; and is in as fertile and healthy tract of country as any in the Western World; and perhaps there is no site for a town, west of the Alleghaines, possessed of more local advantages. The L'Embarrass, at that place, affords one of the best "Mill Seats" in the western country, which has on it now a complete Saw mill, and a Grist mill is erecting, that will shortly be in operation. It enjoys all the advantages of river navigation, as any boats, which float on the Wabash can at all times come up to the mill without obstruction. The town is laid out at the cardinal points of the compass, which completely correspond with the course of the river at that place.

Smallsburg is laid out on a liberal scale, with a view to the convenience and gratification of its inhabitants. Front Street is 90 feet wide; Main and Market Streets, which cross

each other at right angles in the public square are each 90 feet wide, and all the others are 66. The alleys, which divide the lots in due order, are each 16 feet wide.

The town is laid off in 24 blocks, exclusive of the public square, which contains one block; each block comprises 12 lots and each lot contains 7,500 square feet. The proprietor intends laying out the residue of the tract on which the town stands, amounting to 255 acres, in out lots of two and one-half acres each, which he will dispose of on equitable terms.

CONDITION.

The Proprietor, in order to quicken the settlement, and promote the growth and prosperity of the town, gives to any good mechanic or other citizen, who will take and improve a lot within 18 months after the date of his certificate of donation, (which binds the donor to make a title in fee to such lot), by fabricating a commodious home, of frame, brick, or stone, composed of 2 rooms, not less than 16 feet square each, well lighted with glass windows, and furnished with two fireplaces; subject to forfeiture to the proprietor, if each donee shall fail in a complete compliance with the foregoing stipulation. The Proprietor, without discrimination, gives, on these conditions, all the lots numbered with even numbers, such as 2, 4, etc., etc., reserving to himself those known by uneven numbers, as 1, 3, etc., etc.

There is now nearly completed at the spot, an excellent Turnpike Bridge, which will be of great utility to emigrants to the West; and an extensive Tannery is preparing in the suburbs of the town, the valuable advantages of which it is unnecessary to explain. As this town is equi—distant from Palmyria, the seat of Justice in Edwards County, and Palestine, in Crawford, which are more than 40 miles distant, the presumption is strong, that ere long, there will be a new county laid off from part of both, and that Smallsburg will be the seat of Justice. There is no town on the waters of the West, which offers more inducements to the enterprising emigrant. The

healthiness of the climate, the rich soil of the surrounding country, the rapidly increasing population of the neighborhood, into which so strange a tide of migration is flowing, its beautiful situation on a navigable river, which will soon bear on its bosom the rich products of a land of inexhaustible fertility; these advantages, combined with the easy terms offered by the Proprietor, certainly present the fairest field for the exercise of capital, industry and enterprise, of any town in the Western Country.

Nov. 3, 1819.

JOHN SMALL.

Blackman, Printer, Centinel Office, Vincennes."

The newspapers, lawyers, doctors and merchants of the county have histories. Apropos of this, old Dr. Adams organized the first medical society west of the Allegheny Mountains, there have been some writers of books in the county. According to Chas. M. Thompson of the University of Illinois, the Lincoln's crossed the Wabash River near Vincennes and traveled the Vincennes-St. Louis stage road as far as Lawrenceville, turning northward there and passing on through Palestine.

Historic old "Plank Road" is deserving of mention here. If you have ever gone from Vincennes to Lawrenceville or from Lawrenceville to Vincennes you have passed the "Halfway Place" (Charles Crews' residence), then on the "Wayside Inn" that was kept and conducted by a man named Carnes, when the road was the mail route, or stage line from Cincinnati to St. Louis. The two-story Inn kitchen was taken down forty years ago. The Cottage Inn was removed only a few years ago. The highway by which this noted inn was kept is called the State or old Plank Road. The State recognized the importance of this highway through the swamps of Allison Prairie and appropriated a fund and made the grade and gravel road, and after this work was done the State transferred this part of the highway to a company (the Plank Road Company), who laid this highway with Plank and established tollgates, thus you see *why* it was called the State Road, and why it was afterwards called the *Plank* road. This road is identified with the early

history of Illinois and is one of the pioneer highways of the State. It was the gateway to the wild west and the gold fields of California. It was one of the highways from the rough and rugged peaks of the Allegheny Mountains to the rich and fertile soils of the Mississippi Valley. The combination bridge at the east end of this road that crosses the Wabash River, is partly wooden of ancient design and partly iron with a combination drawbridge in the middle." This information about the Plank road was furnished me by Charles Crews.

The government of the county was started with John Dunlap, James Lanterman and William Martin as county commissioners; Toussaint Dubois, Jr., as clerk; Samuel H. Clubb, treasurer and assessor; H. M. Gillham, probate judge; William Wilson, circuit judge; Toussaint Dubois, circuit clerk; Henry Dubois, sheriff; J. M. Robinson, prosecuting attorney; Robert Benefiel, coroner; and J. Dunlap, county surveyor.

In 1821, at the time of the organization of the county, a very large portion of the public land had become the property of individuals, and in order to show clearly what parts of the county were settled, and in order to show clearly what parts of the county were settled, and who the settlers were prior to 1821, the names of all the gentleman freeholders were given at the formation of the county and *only* gentleman freeholders could serve on the grand jury. There were about 250 gentleman freeholders and probably as many squatters; one-fifth of the area was in the possession of the gentleman freeholders. At the formation of the county there were 2,250 people. There were thirteen marriages the first year and ten estates put under administration. First will probated was that of John Purgin in August, 1821. Among those who taught schools in the county limits from 1817 to 1819 were Mrs. Clark, Agnes Corrie, George Godfrey, Isaiah Lewis, Larkin Ryle, John Martin, James Marney, Borden and Kenney. The school teacher and the preacher went hand in hand, in many instances performing the same office, and the same rude, log structure served alike for school and house of worship. Among the early resident ministers were the Reverends McCord, Stone, Clark, Ramsey, Collahan, Borden, Kinkade, Travis and others, among whom was squeal-

ing Johnny Parker. The Circuit riders often came into the county; among the most noted were Peter Cartwright and Lorenzo Dow.

Few people in Lawrence County know that it was originally named Dubois—after Toussaint Dubois, Sr., who settled on Dubois hills on or before 1778. On Jan. 4, 1821, the committee on organization for Lawrence County of the State Legislature reported, and Representative Blackwell of St. Clair moved an amendment giving the new county the name of Dubois; this bill was approved and passed, and three commissioners were appointed to meet at the house of Toussaint Dubois, Jr., until suitable buildings were erected. Unfortunately, when the people were not thinking of such a thing, the name was changed to Lawrence. In 1824 the county was composed of three townships, Allison, Lawrence and Fox. At the time of the adoption of the township organization, the county was divided into eleven voting precincts, called Russellville, Allison, Wabash, Bond, Petty, Shidler, Perry, Bon Pas, Johnson, St. Francisville and Lawrenceville. December, 1856, the County Court appointed Peter Smith, William Adams and Walter Buchanan to divide the county of Lawrence into townships; eight townships were formed, Perry (now Petty), Bond, Russell, Hardin (now Christy), Lawrence, Thompson (now Allison), Marion (now Lukin), and Dennison. Christy Township was divided into two townships in 1872, making Bridgeport.

The early division of the county into militia districts had nothing to do with its civil government. There were six militia districts. Election for company battalion and regimental offices were held in June, 1821, at the home of Isaiah Lewis, by Victor Buchanan, Richard McCorcle, Cornelius Delong, Peter Price and William Adams. After having provided for military protection the court directed its attention to home comforts, granting licenses to Cornelius Taylor and Elijah Lamphere to keep taverns without confining them to any locality. The prices which customers were to be charged were stipulated in solemn order, meals, 25c; lodging, 12½c; each horse fed,

12½c; horse, full day, 50c; per ½ pints whiskey, 12½c; French brandy, 50c; Jamaica spirits, 50c; Holland gin, 50c; domestic brandy, 25c; wine, 50c; peach brandy, 25c; and domestic gin, 25c. Frequently the quarter cents were used as well as the half. The fact of so many brands of liquor being kept on tap leads us to think that the old settlers were rather inclined to indulge. H. S. Campbell was licensed to keep a "tippling house." These licenses were \$3.00 each. Squire Anderson paid to court \$2.00 fine collected for profane swearing. Swearing, common and profane, is no longer a source of revenue. Squire Clubb now had \$11.00 in the Treasury.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

First building was a stray pen constructed by Sheriff Dubois for cost of \$7.75. Court next proceeded to construct a jail, same to be 17 feet square, two stories high, made of hewn logs, double walls and the space filled with rocks, cost \$625.00; built by Cornelius Taylor and Isaac Fail, and finished March, 1822. In August, 1822, Court contracted to build a court house of brick for \$1,500.00; it was finally finished in July, 1824. It was in such a poor condition that it had to be abandoned. The June term of 1825 was held at the home of Richard Mieure and the December term at Hiram Wade's. Gabriel Cauthorn's house sheltered the Court during March, June and September terms of 1826. Meanwhile the county had contracted with Joshua Bond to finish the court house at an expenditure of \$2,500.00. He was paid the full amount in 1826.

CIRCUIT COURT.

The first Circuit Court was held in the home of Toussaint Dubois, Jr., in June, 1822, with Judge Wilson on the bench; J. M. Robinson, prosecuting attorney; Toussaint Dubois, Jr., clerk; and Henry Dubois, sheriff. The sheriff called upon the following "gentleman freeholders" to form the grand jury: Samuel Harris, William Spencer, Larkin Ryle, Daniel Grove, Benjamin McCleave, Rezin Clubb, Benjamin Sumner, Samuel

Ramsey, William Howard, Abraham Cairnes, Scott Riggs, Thomas Anderson, William Adams, Eli Harris, Daniel Travis, John Berry, Ezekiel Turner, Joseph Clayton, James Beard, Joseph Adams, Wm. Bennett and John Hindman. Col. Daniel L. Gold in his sketch of "Lawrence County" mentioned "*The Grand Jury*," and added the following: "After being charged as to their duty, they retired to the woods, *very probably* for *consideration*."

EARLY FERRIES.

A number of ferries were established in an early day. James Gibson's on the Wabash was the most important; Daniel Keykendall also kept one. The third one was kept by Elijah Lamphere. Valentine J. Bradley and Caius M. Eaton established a ferry across the Embarras at Lawrenceville in June, 1825. At the same time James Nabb and John Fail were licensed to run a ferry across the same stream at Yellow Banks. They were a source of revenue to the company.

TAVERNS.

The number of taverns increased with the population. The tavern of 1820 was a different institution from the "saloon" of our modern times. Taverns were usually found in the county seats, on the stage roads, and at ferry landings. The tavern-keeper was, as a rule, a leading man in his borough. He was well informed, for it was he, who gathered the news from the traveling public. Here is a list of all who had been licensed in the first five years of the county government: Cornelius Taylor, Elijah Lamphere, H. S. Campbell, Daniel Keykendall, James Nabb, Mathew Neely, Jonathan Marney, Jesse M. Grant (Grant was also Justice of the Peace), Edward Rathbone, John Bush, Samuel H. Clubb, Michael Stufflebeam and Delilah Matson. These thirteen taverns paid each a small tax, none over \$3.00. They gave bond to keep orderly houses, and were licensed because the public good demanded it.

Mr. Perry Lewis was in the business of building flat boats about the year 1845. New Orleans being a great and attractive market on account of the outlet down the river, this proved a good venture for him, he making sometimes twenty dollars a day in turning the sales of his boats. The boats would start on the Embarras River loaded with corn, hides, wild honey, etc. That was a great business in those days and Lawrenceville was a lively, busy point until about 1848, having a large trade with the South. An interesting feature of the store business about 1835 in Lawrenceville was the keeping of the big (wool) and little (flax) wheel for the spinning of yarn to be woven into clothes; shot, powder, lead, etc., were among the things kept to be exchanged for furs, and the skins of wild game. The store-keepers were very chary of buying farm product of that time—the butter, on account of “milk sickness,” which was considered incurable and dreaded like the cholera, it was hard to be located and was always in some other locality than the one where it was said to be.

Licenses to teach school at that time were issued by the county clerk.

Upon the building of the B. & O. Railroad in 1848, the community was thrown into a great state of excitement on account of the refusal of Mr. Aaron Shaw to give the railroad the right of way through his land, thus forcing the road to build its station a mile below the town. The first train which started on its tour of inspection over the new road stopped to take on the Hon. Jesse K. Dubois, and the whole county turned out to see the first train.

Lawrence County never had but one man nominated and elected on the State ticket—Republican or Democrat. When the first Republican convention was held much fear was felt among the northern and middle State delegates as to the support of Southern Illinois; Abraham Lincoln, himself a candidate for President of the United States, told the delegations “not to worry—that a friend of his, a redheaded Frenchman from Lawrence County was on the way, and he would take care of Southern Illinois,” which he did, and Jesse K. Dubois

of Lawrence County was nominated and elected to the office of State Auditor on the first Republican State ticket in Illinois, the "Lincoln ticket" as it was called. He served several terms and was called the "Nestor" of the war administration, and *through* him Lawrence County has the honor of being one of the few southern counties in which our great emancipator visited. Tradition has it, that when the Lincoln's came into Illinois across the Wabash, they camped at the foot of the Dubois hills, and as it was the custom in those days for the settler to extend the hospitality of their homes to the campers; that young Dubois, a lad just home from college at Bloomington, Ind., went on this errand for his mother—but two years difference in their ages—it was natural for the young men, Lincoln and Dubois, to become friends; but, be this true or not, they were always fast friends. Dubois went to the Legislature at Vandalia when only 21, and Lincoln was there also. Lincoln made several visits to Dubois hills, going into Vincennes and over to Lawrenceville. Uncle Jimmie Eaton (now of Bridgeport) remembers well when Dubois brought Mr. Lincoln into his father's grocery store (where Dr. Cannett office now is) to meet his father. At that time, they were all Whigs. He also conducted a lawsuit in the Lawrence County Court House for Mr. Dubois.

COPIES OF THE DUBOIS-LINCOLN LETTERS.

LAWRENCEVILLE, 1st Sept., 1856.

DEAR LINCOLN :

If you could stop down here one day next week during our court and make us one big rousing speech I would give you my hat but if you can not why I will think as much of you as ever.

Yours,

JESSE K. DUBOIS.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., May 12th, 1860.

HAMLIN TAYLOR :

MY DEAR SIR :

This will introduce our Auditor of State Jesse K. Dubois—you may safely confide in him, and in all others in

whom he will advise you to confide. Our old friend William Butler will also be on the ground.

Yours very Truly,

A. LINCOLN.

The above note was handed me by Auditor Dubois at Chicago at the National Republican Convention previous to the nomination of Mr. Lincoln for President at that convention.

HAMLIN TAYLOR.

Jesse K. Dubois was county judge at the time he wrote the above letter from Lawrenceville to A. Lincoln.

After his death this letter was found among Mr. Lincoln's effects and returned to the Dubois family by his son, Robert T. Lincoln. When Mr. Dubois took his family from here to Springfield, the Lincoln's had a home prepared for them. Their friendship never was broken, and when President-elect Lincoln left his home, never to return, Mr. Dubois was one of the few men who accompanied him on the train to Washington, and when the dreadful news came of our President's assassination he was sent on to Washington to accompany Mr. Lincoln's remains home and was one of the active pallbearers.

Lawrence County also had the distinction of having the national committeeman of the Republican party for the Northwest during the Lincoln campaign, in the person of Jesse K. Dubois.

An early resident on Dubois hill was "Billy O' the Bow," a colored man, who, with his wife Seeley, had their apartments in a hollow sycamore tree; here they dwelt together in conjugal bliss, till the latter was cruelly shot by an Indian. At the north foot of the hill, was the home of Archibald George, who, with his family of four or five children, settled there about 1820.

In the vicinity of where afterward stood Small's Mill, occurred the capture of Col. Francis Vigo by the Indians, in 1778. Vigo, with his servant, as the messenger of Gen. Clark was proceeding on his way from Kaskaskia to Vincennes, when he was siezed, stripped of everything he possessed and carried

as a captive before Gen. Hamilton. The result is a matter of general history.

The Lawrence County Agricultural Board was organized in 1858; the society purchased five acres of ground, for which they gave \$200.00 (it is now the Hennessy farm); for a time the enterprise was prosperous; with a few rainy seasons and too much fair in the county (Bridgeport had organized a society a few years later), both became swamped. The last exhibition was held in the fall of 1878.

On the side of the old Dubois Mill on the Embarras River north of town in 1833 Daniel Payne constructed a mill; later it was owned by Ryan and McClean; Mr. Cole took possession of it in 1880; then the Price Steam flouring mill was established in 1880 by W. C. Price. The early *newspapers* were Democratic Herald, F. C. Meserve, editor; Rural Republican, C. B. Day, editor. *Hotels*—Union House, Lawrence Roby, proprietor; Watts House, Mrs. E. Watts, proprietor. *Physicians*—W. M. Garrard, C. W. Carter, Silas Hall, E. H. Robinson. *General Merchandise*—T. W. Roberts, Robertson Bros. (as early as 1865 and maybe earlier). *Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, etc.*—As early as 1866 or 67—Ed. Tracy, F. R. Watts, Cole & Barnhouse, John H. Roberts, Wm. Roberts, and G. M. Carr came some years later. *Druggist and Pharmacist*—Edward Schmallhausen. *Grain and Lumber*—S. P. Barton. *Furniture and Undertaking*—B. H. Propes & Son. *Blacksmiths*—W. C. Gilbert, Fred Pierce. *Wagon and Repair Shop*—Joseph White. (His father, Silas White, had the shop in a very early day.) *Barber*—Logan Harmon. *Meat Market*—John B. Evans. *Carpenters and Builders*—L. Selby, James Struble, J. B. Hiskey, John Johnson, Daniel Swinehart & Son. *Gun and Locksmith*—John Tromley. *Insurance Agent*—Charles Teschmacher. *Real Estate Agent and Abstractor*—A. I. Judy. *Lumber, Grain and Agricultural Implements*—Hardacre & Musgrave. *Stonemason*—Michael O'Rourke. *Plasterers*—George Clark, John Simms. *Shoemakers*—Wm. Walton, Isaac Hall. *Tailor*—Philip Shafer. *Painter and Glazier*—Osmon & Son. *Postmaster*—John H. Roberts.

Edward Tracy was quite a factor in helping to build up the town from 1866 until his death in 1903, he having a grocery store and built three large two-story brick business buildings, several houses to rent. He at one time had a tinshop, a meat market and bought and sold stock and owned 500 acres of land south of town and owned his home on State Street, which extended north to the river.

"Why Lawrence County and Southern Illinois was called Egypt." Many years ago, when settlers first began to be numerous in Northern Illinois, there was a crop failure in that section, but in the older settled Southern portion of the State the corn crop was abundant, so the Northern Illinoisans hitched up their wagons and went South after corn. The resemblance of their errand to that of the sons of Jacob was evident, and so they called their journey "going down into Egypt."

It will thus be seen that Lawrence County is one of the earliest settled portions of Illinois.

While Vincennes, our great radiating point, has her history, the Harrison House, Fort Sackville, etc., we, too, have some things worth knowing about.

Lawrence County has a historic house and one of the few houses built with a "False Front." It was built by Capt. John Riley, father of Henrietti Riley and of Mr. Daniel Gold's first wife. The house was at one time inhabited by Daniel Gold and many prominent men were entertained there.

Lawrence County has a number of Revolutionary soldiers buried within her limits and has the added distinction of having a living daughter of the Revolution, Mrs. Lucinda Porter.

Lawrence County erected the first house in the State for school and church purposes, established the first church organization in the State with a house in which to worship, and gave to the State Legislature William Kinkade, an uncompromising advocate of freedom and foe of slavery in the memorable struggle of 1824 and the three great trails as I have mentioned before passed through our county.

Lawrence County has one dark blot upon its escutcheon upon which we do not care to dwell, "The hanging of Elizabeth Reed."

Let us wake up. Shall we lie still longer? We have waited too long now; many of our pioneers have passed away, yet we have some left who were born in the county from seventy-four years ago to ninety-four. Shall we gather facts from these remaining few of our aged citizens or slumber on until it is too late to establish the truth?

We have the story of our great ones of this county, but there are many lesser ones deserving of recognition. Lawrence County is approaching her century of organization; as a component part of our magnificent State shall we not take our share in the great work of preparation for the Centennial of our State in 1818 and the Centennial of our county in 1821?

Let us wake up to our obligations, historically; bring out our heroes, graven their deeds on the pages of history, display our points of interest and our wealth, and let the State know that Lawrence County is ready to do her part.

I have only *touched* on the very early history of Lawrence County. I hesitate to mention names of *late* years, for there are others, but will speak of this *one* item of interest among our heroes of today. Prof. Maurice Tanquary, who arrived here recently from a three years' stay in the Arctic regions, was sent out by the State University of Illinois under the leadership of Donald B. McMillan, and they have thoroughly proved the non-existence of Crocker land, the supposed new Arctic Continent. On the return trip Prof. Tanquary was the first to reach land. Other members of the party were left at North Star Bay.

NOTES.

1. Aaron Shaw did not want to give up any of his land for the railroad and he said he would make a "sheep ranch" of Lawrenceville. This is why the B. & O. station is a mile from town on Dubois land.

2. Silas White and his wife Cynthana and 12 children, James, Edward, Harry, Milton, Joseph, Benjamin, Silas (these all were in the Civil War), Austin, Harriet Ann, Maude, Hannah and Sarah, came to Lawrence County from Muskingum County, Ohio, the latter part of 1847; came on boats to Evansville and were met there by an uncle, who brought them through in a wagon, some riding, part walking. He opened up a wagon shop on West State Street (across the street from the James Dickerson home) and worked at that as long as he lived. He died November, 1864. Joseph and Silas continued the work. All buried in Lawrenceville Cemetery.

3. William and Susanne Dubois Jones had a most pretentious house for those days (along in 1807); two-story stone house where the Charley Irwin house now stands.

4. Dubois and Mieure families were "old French families." Susanne "Fiddle," a French servant, raised the children of these families and died at the home of James Fyffe.

Richard Mieure and later his son W. A. J. Mieure, kept the Mieure Hotel. They also had a general store., W. A. J. leaving the store and everything to be Captain in the Civil War. He died in Cape Girardeau, Mo., of typhoid fever Nov. 3, 1861.

5. John Baptiste du Bois, his wife Euphrosyne and three sons, Francois, James and Toussaint, lived at Post Vincennes, John Baptiste having a general store there as early as 1744. His son Toussaint Dubois, for whom Dubois County, Indiana, is named, lived on Dubois Hills across the Wabash River from the Post as early as 1774 (now the Illinois side, then the N. W. Territory). Educated in France at the same school which Father Rivet attended, he was a brilliant, handsome, educated Frenchman of noble birth. An intimate friend of William Henry Harrison, he was sent by him to confer with Washington over supplies and was one of the first trustees of Vincennes University. He was also Captain of the Scouts and Guides War 1812, and the last man sent by Harrison to confer with the Prophet. It is said that the famous underground passage from the Harrison house led to the river, where those seeking safety crossed the river and took refuge on Dubois Hills, where cannons were placed for the protection of the settlers. One night when Toussaint Dubois was away at a conference with the Indians, a band of them appeared at sunset at the Dubois home and asked Madam Dubois for her youngest child Jesse K., aged about 2 years, saying that if it were true that the "Dubois" was their friend she need not fear. Madam Dubois placed the infant in their arms, knowing that he was being held as hostage and that the lives of the settlers were in great danger. All night, history says, she paced the floor weeping and torn by anguish, but at sunrise she saw the Indians coming up the hill carrying her boy, who had been formally adopted as their chief's son. Just before the Civil War, Jesse K. Dubois was sent by the United States on a secret mission to the Indians west of the Rockies. He was received with every courtesy shown to a chief's son, and was allowed to have photographs of the chief's wife and sons taken, a thing unheard of in those days, blanket Indians, as they once were, not as now. Toussaint Dubois was drowned in Little Wabash returning from Kaskaskia. He was a partner of Pierre Menard and Francis Vigo.

6. Prominent colored families in an early day were the Morris's, Portees, Gowens, Bill McGiffie (who was Capt. W. A. J. Mieure's bodyguard during the Civil War and is living today), and Simm's, Mammy Sally being almost indispensable to the white families, and the Dunsons and Tann's.

7. Dr. Garrard and Dr. Powell were the prominent physicians and practiced all over the county. John Coburn and Will Musgrave were the first to buy and sell wheat and poultry. The Garrards and Coburns came in about 1856.

8. Cal. Bosley, Ling Selby and Elmus Ryan were the carpenters in about 1856.

9. Alvin W. Tracy lived in Vincennes and had a general store, also conducted the ferry between Vincennes and Lawrence County.

10. Edward Tracy conducted a grocery store and made trips down the river on flat boats to New Orleans, taking corn and staves. Cal Bosley was the pilot in 1872-73.

11. In 1856 the town formed a company and drilled for oil. Tom Seed was the driller and Andy Larned of Pennsylvania had the contract. They first drilled on the Dollahan farm, no success, then on the bank of the river by the old Seed mill; drilled down 600 feet, struck so much limestone that the tools "got in" and they had so much bad luck, the money gave out, so they gave it up.

12. Henry Clubb's father built the Selby House; it was an "Inn" where the stages stopped between Vincennes and Lawrenceville. He also built the Gilbert House for Sammy Miller, who had a big store (general). He had been away and died of cholera on the train and was brought through town in the night by Deck Gardner of Vincennes. The Maxwell House (where Everet Lemmans now lives), he built, Club House on the hill (which was the finest in town), it was all tongue grooved and kiln dried by Tom Seed, the son of Hugh and his two brothers (Hugh) Moses and Andrew, for his home. It has been moved and is in a state of good preservation. It is at present owned by Dr. Duncan.

13. G. W. Wise and Will Clark had a large general store. The street behind our old home was the principal street in town and was built up with fine warehouses piled with corn and staves, etc.

14. Lawrence County was settled by the French.

15. "Cheap John" was a character of old times. He was an auctioneer and always came to town during court with a spring wagon loaded with goods to sell and his funny sayings made the natives all "he haw" and crowd around and "bid" on the goods.

16. The Seeds came from Ireland in a very early day. Gillespies, Goulds and Kinkades were prominent early settlers.

17. The Moore's were an old family of Lukin. They came early before the Revolutionary War.

18. The Seed family have their history back to the Battle of Boyne in the year 1690, coming here from Downpatrick, Ireland, in 1836. This family intermarried with the Gillespies, Mieures, Goulds, Orrs, Akins, Ryans, Kinkades.

19. While the exact date is not known, it is certain that the first Sunday School in Lawrence County was organized in Lawrenceville in June, 1840, by John and Moses Seed. While they were reared in Ireland, they told of the Sunday schools in England and the great good they were accomplishing. On solicitation they started a similar school in a carpenter shop on the west side of what is now known as the public square. The building was a loghouse. Although there were three churches in Lawrenceville at the time—Methodist, Christian and Presbyterian—this was a union Sunday School. The first lesson taught was the 2d chapter of Matthew. The class of boys from 10 to 13 years was composed of John and Albert Badolett, John and Wm. Miller, John Powers, Addison and Crawford Lewis and James Eaton. All have passed to the great beyond except Mr. Eaton, who still continues in Sunday School work.

20. Commencing at Vincennes, the first tavern was kept by Samuel Miller; it was located on the southwest corner of the block occupied by the Maxwell Motor Car Co. on State Street. The next "Stand," as they were called, was near the western line of the county at Kennedy Clubb's, a little later the Mieure Tavern was opened in Lawrenceville. Mrs. Ellen Watts later kept it. Mrs. Caroline Ryan, née Shepherd, to whom the writer is indebted for some of the above facts, has lived in Lawrenceville since 1849, her ancestors coming over with William Penn to Pennsylvania. Her grandfather's name (on her mothers side) was Hammet. She married Capt. Elmus Ryan, one time sheriff of Lawrence County; also her son Edmund served as sheriff.

This Mrs. Susanne Dubois Jones Mieure was fullblooded French and showed it very, very decidedly in looks and talk (Mrs. Ryan remembers her and says she was very cross and scolded so much, but you know I think it *sounded* that way to her, being a different language or broken English); she said the French meals served there were famous and considered fine. Later the Spencer "stand" was opened where the Ed Tracy home now is. When the excavations were made for this Tracy home, they dug into the old pavements and foundations of this old Tavern, also the old well, of the most peculiar tasting water, was still there.

21. John Adams was the first agent at the old O. & M. offices, was there 25 years.

22. The ferryboat ran across the Wabash from the Dubois hills to Vincennes. James Gibson was the pilot. One year the Dubois had one or two thousand bushels of corn; Jesse K. and his wife were both sick, Larry who lived with them was drunk (Larry was the father of Henry of Vincennes), no one to sell it, so his two little girls, Jane and Susan, had to take it across the river to Vincennes to sell it, got the money in silver, carried it in sacks and they could hardly take care of it the ferryman helped them.

23. On the corner of the Eleventh Street and State stood a two-story house (one of the oldest in town), built by the Dubois's and called the old Broadway. That is the house they held court in, and Eliza Kinkade Burilin taught school there also. The house was moved and is still standing.

24. In later years where the Hennessy farm is the Dubois's had a sugar grove; they had big times when they would all gather there and "boil the syrup down."

25. Rev. W. S. Hennessy was a pioneer Methodist preacher, born in Baltimore, came to this county in 1839.

26. Doctor Washburn was one of the first physicians; came from Kentucky.

27. Old Uncle Wesley Clark had a coopershop where Joe Burnstein's home now stands (he was a brother of Mrs. Durkee, who kept a boarding house). The barrels that were used to pack pork in to ship to New Orleans and the staves that were shipped were from this shop.

28. Calus Eaton gave the land to the Christian Church people.

29. Henretti Riley gave the ground for the Presbyterian Church.

30. Some say Miss Jane Gray, a school teacher from Ohio, gave for the Methodists, others that the Dubois gave it.

31. Ann Coburn, mother of Mrs. Wm. Garrard, was Superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School for a great many years. She was born in Kentucky Oct. 18, 1795.

32. Ben Pargin, a great hunter, had 40 dogs, would bring them to Doctor Garrards for a hunt. The family would bake Cracklin corn bread for dogs.

33. Allen G. McNeece, born 1793, lived to be nearly 100 years old, and Catharine Crews McNeece, his wife, born 1797, lived in Bond in an early day. They came from Tennessee in a moving wagon; their daughter, Margaret, was 11 years old. The Prices came from Virginia about the same time. Margaret, born Feb. 2, 1825; Wm. Caswel Price, born Jan. 26, 1821; they married and had nine children; four of them live in Lawrenceville.

34. Geo. Clark (colored) was the hack driver between Lawrenceville and the O. & M. previous to 1870.

35. J. K. Dickerson was a very prominent man in the State of Illinois.
36. James Hammet (father of Cynthia Hammet White), came from Ohio to Bunker Hill in Lukin Township; farmer; lived to be 98 years old; buried at Bunker Hill; owned a large farm; came in 1850. Wife, Catora; their children, Cynthia, Luttinda, Rhoda, Catherine, Sarah, Amanda, Nurces, Harriett, Hannah, and two other, could not get their names.
37. Joshua Dudley (grandfather of Lee Jackson) owned 1,400 acres of land between Old Hadley and Sumner. He was a stock buyer. He went to New Orleans on flat boat to buy stock; died of cholera in New Orleans; went with a belt full of money, which they never got; buried down there after night. One of Christy Township's first settlers.
38. Old man Pickeral had "still" for peach brandy and wild cherry bounce in the hollow below the hill where the Mowery house now is. James and his wife Tacy Pickeral came from Culpepper County, Virginia. Their children, Lafe, Ed, Parry, Al and John.
39. It was reported Lincoln's body had been stolen, so when they moved it to the new tomb J. K. Dubois was asked to be there and identify the body. He said, "Yes, that's Abe."
40. John Buntin edited the first paper here and he used one room in the old brick jail.
41. Old Jim Gilmore was the first harness maker. Came in the 30's.
42. The negro settlement north of town was called Africa, or as the negroes called it "up in de settlement."
43. W. A. J. Mleure in connection with his general store bought fur and shipped it to New York.
44. J. K. White was Deputy Postmaster in 1883 and elected Tax Collector in 1885; Assessor in 1887; Postmaster in 1889; County Clerk in 1894.
45. William Wilson, a Virginian, was one of the first judges in the State from 1819 to 1825; again serving from 1828 to 1835, and from 1841 to 1849.
46. T. B. and Geo. Huffman, lawyers, located here in 1869.
47. Edward Dobins Lodge No. 164 A. F. and A. M. was organized under the name of Lawrenceville Lodge Nov. 3, 1854, but changed the name to the above in honor of its first master. The first meeting was held, under dispensation, Dec. 11, 1854. The charter was granted Oct. 3, 1855. There were seven charter members, Edward Dobins, Jesse K. Dubois, Geo. P. Sherwood, G. C. Crossen, Joseph Gibson, Henry I. Walters and Wm. M. Mills.
48. Dr. Zeba D. French, born June 24, 1837, was a prominent Lawrence County physician.
49. Where the Geo. Carr home stands was the old Bolliver Nabb home. The east bridge crossing the Ambraw was called "The Nabb Bridge."
50. James Nabb was the father of Bolliver and John Nabb. James lived at the top of the hill after crossing the Nabb bridge on Sand ridge. The bridge was covered and was a toll bridge. James' wife was French. James Nabb introduced the first blooded stock in the county in 1830. He was from Kentucky.
51. The Badolettes, Gray's and Roberts came from Virginia.
52. Wright Pritchett was an old settler in Allison.
53. Calaway M. Bosley and his wife, Harriett, came from Kentucky about 1850. His sisters Lucinday Bosley Ryan, Elizabeth B. Gray, Nancy Beckem, Caroline Conner, Mary Glass and Martha Meeks, all lived in Lawrence County.
54. The O'Neills were an old Lawrence County family.
55. Caroline Shepherd lived in Muskingum County, Ohio, with her parents, Robert Jackman Shepherd and Lethinda Hammet Shepherd; there were eight children of them. The father, Robert J., was a high school teacher and went to some large southern city to teach and never was heard of again. The mother and children afterwards moved to Newport, Ky. She remembers well the Mexican War, when the standing army left Newport and when they returned. Afterwards her grandfather Hammet and his family moved to Lawrence County, Lukin Township; Lethinda Hammet Shepherd and her 8 children came with them. The daughter, Caroline Shepherd, married Elmus Ryan in 1851; they had 6 children, Edward, Chas., Mark, Link, Bessie and one other. Elmus formed a company in 1861 and was Captain of Co. F, 91st Reg. of Ill. Their son Edward, was sheriff from 1880 to 1886.
56. The Old Sage Water Mill that is spoken of in this Lawrence County paper—Mr. Sage bought the mill from old Mr. Fagan.
57. Wm. and Betty Tanquary lived just across the street from Judge Shaw, the street between their houses was nicknamed "Tin Pot Alley." Wm. Tanquary had a large blacksmith shop near his home.
58. In Sammy Miller's general store, his grandsons Ed and Joe Buchanan, also Henry Badolett son of Sidney Badolett were his clerks.
59. Judge Shaw's daughter, Mrs. Mary Curry, is the oldest person born here still living in Lawrenceville. She is 73 years old.

60. Judge Crews lived where the Dr. Connett office now is. Gilbert Nye was sheriff; Dr. Ace Powell was a prominent physician, don't know the exact date. About 1863.

61. John Clark, an Englishman was the dancing master, lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays. About 1863.

62. Enoch Organ came from Virginia in a covered wagon to Allison in an early day about 1817 or 18, settled on government land; was a blacksmith and soon after his coming, constructed the first cotton gin in the county, and operated it on his farm for a number of years. Died in 1845, of a disease called the Black Tongue, an epidemic, of which many died on the prairie. He had 5 boys, John, Cornelius, Daniel, Euices and Jesse. Jesse, born 1815—had 5 children; Mrs. Geo. Kyger (living) is one of them. Jesse married Mary Jane Crews the sister of Judge Crews, their father was James Crews; came from Crawford County to Lawrence County in 1829. He entered land about the time the Organs did. The Pollards came from Virginia to Allison in 1815.

63. Mr. M. C. Gilbert was elected sheriff in 1864; served 2 years; elected sheriff again in 1868; served 2 years.

64. Adam Lackey, Sr., a Revolutionary soldier, came to Lawrence County in 1813 and went into Fort Allison. Had 3 children, Adam Jr., Elizabeth and John.